



Billing Code: 3510-22-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648-XD724

Fishing Capacity Reduction Program for the Pacific Coast  
Groundfish Fishery

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National  
Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of loan repayment.

SUMMARY: NMFS issues this notice to inform interested parties  
that the Oregon coastal Dungeness crab sub-loan in the fishing  
capacity reduction program for the Pacific Coast Groundfish  
Fishery has been repaid. Therefore, buyback fee collections on  
Oregon coastal Dungeness crab will cease for all landings after  
December 31, 2014.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before 5 p.m. EST

[INSERT DATE 15 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL  
REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Send comments about this notice to Paul Marx, Chief,  
Financial Services Division, NMFS, Attn: Oregon Coastal  
Dungeness Crab Buyback, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring,  
MD 20910 (see FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael A. Sturtevant at (301) 427-8799 or [Michael.A.Sturtevant@noaa.gov](mailto:Michael.A.Sturtevant@noaa.gov).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 16, 2004, NMFS published a Federal Register document (69 FR 67100) proposing regulations to implement an industry fee system for repaying the reduction loan. The final rule was published July 13, 2005 (70 FR 40225) and fee collection began on September 8, 2005. Interested persons should review these for further program details.

The Oregon coastal Dungeness crab sub-loan of the Pacific Coast Groundfish Capacity Reduction (Buyback) loan in the amount of \$1,367,545.28 will be repaid in full upon receipt of buyback fees on landings through December 31, 2014. NMFS has received \$2,117,701.75 to repay the principal and interest on this sub-loan since fee collection began September 8, 2005. Based on buyback fees received to date, landings after December 31, 2014 will not be subject to the buyback fee. Therefore, buyback loan fees will no longer be collected in the Oregon coastal Dungeness crab fishery on future landings.

Buyback fees not yet forwarded to NMFS for Oregon coastal Dungeness crab landings through December 31, 2014 should be forwarded to NMFS immediately. Any overpayment of buyback fees submitted to NMFS will be refunded on a pro-rata basis to the fish buyers/processors based upon best available fish ticket

landings data. The fish buyers/processors should return excess buyback fees collected to the harvesters, including buyback fees collected but not yet remitted to NMFS for landings after December 31, 2014. Any discrepancies in fees owed and fees paid must be resolved immediately. After the sub-loan is closed, no further adjustments to fees paid and fees received can be made.

Dated: January 23, 2015.

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Basil Brown,  
Acting Director,  
Office of Management and Budget,  
National Marine Fisheries Service.

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